

Overseas Press Club Bulletin

VOL. 36, NO. 1
JANUARY 1, 1981

52 East 41 Street
New York, N.Y. 10017
(212) 679-9650

UNESCO Press Plan A No-No to IAPA

Dwight Sargent covered the 29th annual assembly of the International Press Institute in Florence, Italy, last summer for the Bulletin. He noted there indications of the threat to press freedom which emerged in the later meeting of UNESCO in Belgrade. He discusses here a reaction to the Belgrade meeting by the Inter-American Press Association in an editorial written for the Hearst Newspapers.

We can be thankful the Western Hemisphere has an organization such as the Inter-American Press Association. It is a group of dedicated journalists standing guard over freedom of the press, not only in its members' bailiwicks of North and South America, but throughout the world.

The IAPA held its annual meeting in San Diego recently, and passed unanimously a resolution protesting a threat to the people's right to get the news untouched by government twisting and tinkering. The threat comes from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) which met recently in Belgrade.

Although definite action on managing the news was postponed by UNESCO for two years, the IAPA took note of the darkening clouds over UNESCO's deliberations. A number of UNESCO members are considering creation of what it calls a "New World Order of Information and Communication."

Such an "Order," in the words of the IAPA's San Diego protest, "...would constitute a flagrant government intervention in the media which could damage or destroy freedom of expression." Such meddling would be "...incompatible with the fundamental rights of man."

In view of what appears to be a clear and present danger to press freedom, the Inter-American Press Association solemnly resolved:

"To energetically condemn the efforts of UNESCO and some nations

(Continued on page 3)

Looking Toward 1981 - And Beyond

By Henry Gellermann, OPC President

The past year has been good to the OPC. It has been a year marked by reduction of our debts, accumulated over many years, and adoption of a number of programs by the Board of Governors, which convened, as required by our constitution, each month (except July and August) with record attendance.

Our treasurer, Ben Greenwald, advised the Board at its November meeting that during a period of about 45 days, more than 70% of the membership had paid up its dues, an indication that our members, by and large, approve the Club's present operation and activities, and have also placed us in a comfortable financial position. The final notice to delinquent members has been mailed out and a favorable response is expected. No increase in "dues" is contemplated.

Our annual Awards Dinner in honor of the Canadian Ambassador, Kenneth Taylor, who rescued six Americans from the beleaguered U.S. Embassy in Teheran, held at the Waldorf-Astoria on April 29, was successful and we again distributed that evening our publication *Date-line*, produced for us by U.S. News & World Report. Its advertising revenues made a comfortable contribu-



Henry Gellermann

tion to the Club's treasury. Our *Bulletin*, ably edited by Irvin Taubkin, has not missed a single edition and has regained its previous stature as a lively and informative publication.

We mourned the loss of numerous members through death, among them Jules Frantz, Ralph Major, Red Mueller, the Rev. William Gray, Donald Rodgers and other good friends and members.

1981 Awards Dinner in Honor of Walter Cronkite

The coming year will present the Club with numerous challenges and opportunities. The top event of the year - the Awards Dinner Dance - will honor Walter Cronkite. As of this writing we have a tentative acceptance from Eric Sevareid to act as master of ceremonies at the Awards presentation. It is only tentative - as he explained - because of some commitments he must clear up at that time.

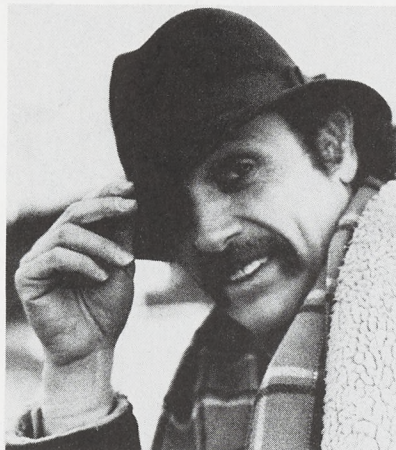
During 1981, I hope for an increased activity by a number of committees, and the activation of new ones such as Hospitality, Overseas Liaison, Books, Special Events, and others.

Members Urged to Aid Membership Drive

The Club will continue as a matter of policy to seek to enlarge its membership and Harry Rand as well as Russ Tornabene have done a fine job. From time to time it has been suggested that the OPC's future and fiscal health are entirely dependent on adding new members. This appears to me an overly simplistic appraisal and only partly true. The real future of our Club depends on our maintaining its journalistic profile, its professional

(Continued on page 2)

New York in Pix Now in Our Lounge



Ray Block

January's picture show in the club lounge will bring us the work of Ray Block, a native New Yorker whose photographs reflect, as he puts it, his "love for the city." Ray is a graduate of the Germain School of Photography. He has also studied at the New School, NYU and the School of Visual Arts. In 1971 he designed and taught a photo workshop at St. Johns University in Santa Fe, N.M. His pictorial interests include graphic design and jazz musicians. His pictures will be on display from Jan. 5 to Jan. 30.

New Applications

ACTIVE RESIDENT

Brian F. Alpert, Managing Editor, Keystone Press Agency
Sponsors: *D. Stevens, Harry Rand*
Ann Berryman, Senior Staff Editor, Reader's Digest
Sponsors: *Harry Rand, Marcia Drennen*

ACTIVE NON-RESIDENT

Ruth Mehrtens Galvin, Senior Correspondent, Time
Sponsors: *Roy Rowan, Marylois P. Vega*
Arthur M. White, News/Travel Director, WEEB Radio
Sponsors: *J. S. Younts, M. S. Younts*

New Members

ACTIVE RESIDENTS:

Irv Lineal
Patricia L. Walker

ACTIVE NON-RESIDENT:

Lester J. Strother

ACTIVE OVERSEAS:

Yrjo Lansipuro

ASSOCIATE RESIDENT:

William D. Askin

ASSOCIATE NON-RESIDENT:

William Exton, Jr.

REINSTATED

ACTIVE RESIDENT:

Genevieve M. Landau

ACTIVE OVERSEAS:

Bernard Krisher

Letters

HONG KONG — The Foreign Correspondents Club of Hong Kong held one of its biggest farewell parties in its history Dec. 4 to say goodbye to seven members:

David DeVoss, *Time* Magazine, transferring to Bangkok.

Edith Lederer, The Associated Press, to Nairobi.

Jim Sterba, *The New York Times*, to Peking.

Tony Ralf, UPI-Unicom, to London.

Andrew Nagorski, *Newsweek* Magazine, to Russian-language studies in California and then to Moscow.

Derek Williams, CBS, to Bangkok.

Alexi Lester, club steward, to Sydney with her Citibank husband.

None of the correspondents will be replaced in Hong Kong except for the vacancies in AP and UPI. Several American media offices in Hong Kong have closed or reduced staff in the past year because of increased residential and office rents, and because they opened bureaus in Peking to cover China, previously watched from Hong Kong.

Ronald Macdonald, managing director of the Melbourne (Australia) *Age* and immediate past chairman of the International Press Institute, spent two weeks in China in November meeting with officials of the *Peking People's Daily* and Xinhua News Agency.

The People's Daily plans to start China's first English-language daily newspaper in 1981 with services from foreign news agencies and feature syndicates.

In a speech to the Chinese Journalists Association in Peking, Macdonald said, "It would be an encouraging sign if the journalists of China would join their colleagues of other nations in the struggle to ensure that journalists everywhere are able to perform, without fear of reprisal and condemnation, their essential task of keeping their own people and the peoples of the world supplied with accurate and reliable news."

In Hong Kong, the Australian publisher told the *South China Morning Post* in an interview, "Foreign correspondents (in China) are being given increasingly greater access to information and are receiving more answers from the bureaucracy." — *Al Kaff*

TOKYO — The world of Japanese baseball was shaken recently by the resignations of its two top performers, Home Run King Sadaharu (Mr.) Oh and Shigeo Nagashima, another great hitter. In Mr. Oh's 22 years he produced 868 home

(Continued on page 3)

Looking Toward OPC's Future

(Continued from page 1)

integrity and a degree of selectivity in admitting new members. These are the three ingredients, the seeds of future growth and the real catalysts to attract members. It is for this reason that I have held reservations about the present method of attempting to enlarge the membership via mail campaigns. It seems to me that the entire membership should get involved in approaching suitable individuals in the journalistic or public relations fields to join the OPC. It eases not only the screening problem, but assures a level of membership quality consistent with desirable standards.

Good clubs do not solicit members through mass mailings. This might be acceptable for trade associations or the local chamber of commerce.

Therefore, in my opinion, part of the answer lies with our own membership bringing in new members. The Club's membership drive should not every few years zero in on mass mailings but should be a continuing year-round effort supported by every member. This way we maintain quality control and also save a very sizable amount of money. Our present membership is 1,481. If only 25% bring in one member, we will have added 370 members without having spent any money.

Members requiring promotional material or application forms for admission should contact the Club's office.

Participation in Club Activities

Along with the annual "statement of dues" we send a questionnaire inquiring of members in what area of the Club they feel they would participate in our activities. Their response is usually gratifying — until we spell out what the job involves in terms of time and effort. The Club hopes to enlarge its activities and strengthen present ones. Above all, it hopes for the new and the younger members to get involved.

I will be glad to sit down with anyone interested in working for the Club and discuss in detail the scope of the assignment, the more the better.

In closing this report, I extend to all the members and their families my best wishes for the coming year.

Washington Ticker

By JESSIE STEARNS

Sen. Minority Leader Howard Baker, R. Tenn., who becomes Majority Leader when the 97th Congress convenes on Jan. 5, told Senate Majority Leader Robert Byrd, D.W.Va., he prefers to stay in his Minority Leader office because it has a view of the "Mall," the Washington Monument and the White House. Also, the office was occupied for eight years by his late father-in-law, Everett McKinley Dirksen, when he was minority leader.

* * *

NBC president Bill Small promoted Washington bureau chief Sid Davis to vice president. Sid joined NBC three years ago as director of news after 17 years as Westinghouse Broadcasting Washington Bureau chief. He has a staff of 20 NBC correspondents as bureau chief.

Bob Schieffer, who has been weekend anchor and the CBS Morning News in New York for two years, was promoted to national correspondent, reporting from Washington. In effect, Schieffer replaced Roger Mudd, who joined NBC in November. Charles Kuralt, "On the Road," replaced Schieffer in New York.

* * *

Bob Pierpont, CBS White House correspondent for years, and White House Correspondents Assoc'n president, was moved over to State Department as correspondent. Despite this, the WHCA voted to keep Pierpont as president.

* * *

ABC will be the first American TV network to have a correspondent in Warsaw, Poland, John McKenzie, currently London bureau chief for Canada's CTV network, will head the bureau, opening Jan. 1.

* * *

Jazz Greats Stir OPCers

The twilight jazz session, Dec. 5 saluting one of the great drummers, Tommy Benford, featured with the Harlem Blues and Jazz Band, drew an enthusiastic throng of members and jazz buffs. The event also celebrated the 29th wedding anniversary of the world-renowned drummer who began his globe-trotting in 1914 and steadily rose to become one of the foremost in jazz.

While the band was setting up, OPC's distinguished jazz pianist, **Jane Jarvis**, set the mood, quickly picked up by the six-piece band of outstanding artists supporting Benford: Al Casey, guitar; Eddie Durham, trombone; George James, alto saxophone; Gene Rodgers, piano; Bobby Williams, trumpet; and Johnny Williams, bass.

The band's sparkling, rhythmic statements reflected their direct roots with traditional jazz. Each had performed with the great creative artists — Jelly Roll Morton, King Oliver, Louis Armstrong, Jimmy Lunceford, Count Basie, Fats Waller, Duke Ellington. Their superb swing style bounced on such numbers as "Swinging the Blues," "Honeysuckle Rose," "Tin Roof

Blues," "Sentimental Journey," and a host of others.

A special highlight of the tribute was Maxine Sullivan, the swinging singer who served as honorary co-president of the Overseas Jazz Club since its founding, in a beautiful rendition of "St. Louis Blues." In the audience were the famous composer W.C. Handy's son, Wyer Handy, and grandson Homer D. Lewis. Carmen Leggio and Harold Ousley were outstanding with a tenor saxophone duet on "Indiana."

Nostalgic jazz singer Peter Dean broke it up with "Baby Won't You Please Come Home" and "I'm Going to Sit Right Down and Write Myself a Letter" with the driving support of Jane Jarvis at the piano.

Other musicians who performed or were present: Buck Clayton, Frank Orchard, Jacques Butler, Claudio Maxwell, Jimmie Wright, Jimmy Edwards, Vince Giordano.

The program was hosted by OPC's **Wilma Dobie**, with special commentary on the history of Benford and the band by Dr. Al Vollmer, the group's manager.

— Wilma Dobie

KOPPERS COMPANY, INC.

is a highly diversified manufacturing and engineering and construction firm serving industry in six basic areas: architectural and construction materials, plastics, chemicals and coatings, engineered products, environmental systems, and engineering and construction. Pittsburgh-based Koppers markets more than 125 products and services and has operations in nearly every important market area of the world.

*Helping tell the story of
Koppers Company and
other business leaders is the business of*

Burson-Marsteller

PUBLIC RELATIONS/PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NEW YORK • CHICAGO • LOS ANGELES •
WASHINGTON • PITTSBURGH • TORONTO
BRUSSELS • FRANKFURT • GENEVA • LONDON •
PARIS • STOCKHOLM • STUTTGART
HONG KONG • SINGAPORE
• TOKYO • KUALA LUMPUR

LETTERS

(Continued from page 2)

runs, a world record. Both players were with the Yomiuri Giants, owned by the Yomiuri newspaper, which has suffered a significant drop in circulation since their loss.

The Finance Ministry, under whose control Customs operates, has eased restrictions concerning obscenity, allowing pictures, non-theater movies and publications showing full frontal nudity to be imported unless they are considered "to arouse sexual desire excessively." — Masahiro Watanabe

UNESCO

(Continued from page 1)

to promote a New World Order of Information and Communication if the proposals continue to be designed to establish marked totalitarian policies which will help governments gain absolute domination and control of social communications media."

Perhaps UNESCO will back down before real damage is done. If so, IAPA will deserve much credit for its vigilant guardianship of one of the "fundamental rights of man," the people's right to know.



OPC BULLETIN

Published on the 1st and 15th of each month by the Overseas Press Club of America, Inc. Air-mailed to members overseas. First class mail to others.

Irvin S. Taubkin, Editor; Helen Alpert, George E. Burns, Blythe Foote Finke, Rosalind Moore, Charles J. Schreiber, associate editors.

Who, What, Where

By BLYTHE FOOTE FINKE

What a great group you OPC members are! Keep on sending in the fascinating tidbits. You are doing a great job! The more the merrier!

With the new Reagan administration about to take over January 20 no doubt there will be a rush to publish books on all conceivable aspects of it. Well, OPC member **Peter D. Hannaford** of Pasadena, California, can be counted among the first. He is writing a book under contract to Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, Inc., about Ronald Reagan's quest for the White House. It is titled "The Reagans: A Personal Portrait." Hannaford was assistant to Reagan when he was Governor, and also Director of Public Affairs in Sacramento. He also wrote Reagan's acceptance speech last summer at the Detroit convention. Spring 1981 is anticipated publishing date. Congratulations, Peter.

* * *

Jhan Robbins' book for Putnam: "Bess and Harry — An American Love Story" in its third printing. It was also selected by the *Reader's Digest* Condensed Books and McCall's magazine. It is also running in newspapers across the country.

OPC member **Marianne Mackay**, former vice president of public relations for James Neal Harvey, Inc., publishes her first novel February 24, 1981. It is entitled "Prisms," and will be put out by Seaview Books.

The American Society of Mechanical Engineers at its 100th annual meeting in Chicago in November awarded **Lester R. Bittel**, professor of management at James Madison University, its Centennial Medal. It honors recipients for service to the society through application of technologies and skills of mechanical engineering. Eight years ago Bittel left New York and an editor's job with McGraw-Hill to go south to the deep green fields of the Shenandoah Valley. "I still keep my thin tie to NYC via membership in OPC," he writes.

* * *

Philip Dorf, who had been a writer and editor with UPI before he got into public relations, has joined Robert Marston and Associates, one of the country's top ten independent PR firms. Dorf had been ten years with Harshe-Rotman & Druck, head of its New York and Washington operations. His Philip Dorf & Co. will be a separate corporate entity.

* * *

Get well good wishes to **Dorothy Ducas** who fell and broke her hip October 28th in her own bedroom in South Salem, New York. After an operation and 11 days in the hospital she is back home recuperating. She would appreciate hearing from old OPC pals.

* * *

Peggy Whedon, producer of ABC News weekly interview program "Issues and Answers," (Sundays 12:00 to 12:30 P.M.) has written a new book which tells "all" about the hilarious, harrowing moments of producing weekly television and radio network programs for 20 years. It is titled "Always on Sunday" (W.W. Norton). It is moving so fast it has already reached audiences in three countries and 20 states to promote the 20th anniversary of the program. She has been appearing on behalf of her book in Europe and on the West Coast. She launched "Issues" on November 27, 1960, in almost every major U.S. city.

* * *

Robert G. Black, in PR, newspapers, magazines and broadcasting since 1955, has opened Bob Black and Partners, an executive search and recruitment firm. It will specialize in finding communications people — PR, advertising, sales promotion and editorial — for Fairfield, Connecticut, county firms. As an additional service he is offering services to the recreational boating industry, a special area of interest. For interested OPC members he is at (203) 762-2711.

* * *

Among a list of scores of writers, artists and other creative and public figures unhappy enough with the United Nations to form the Committee for UN Integrity and voice their complaint that the UN fails in its original purpose to keep peace in the world (what a sentence!) is our own **Gerold Frank**.

Alan Levy postcards from Vienna this correction of a recent item: "the publisher of my "So Many Heroes" is Second Chance Press, Sagaponack, N.Y. The house you listed published it in 1972 under another title. Second chance is such a bold new venture it deserves this correction. Thanks."

* * *

Delayed word comes from Monique Norman of the death in June of her husband, **Albert E. Norman**, a correspondent for the *Christian Science Monitor*. Before reporting from Spain, where he died, he reported from Australia.

* * *

Delayed word comes also that **Phil E. Curran**, who had retired some years ago to Newport Beach, California, is dead. He had a long career with the United Press as a World War II correspondent in the Pacific; managing director, British UP; director of client relations, UPI; and Southwest Pacific manager, Sydney, Australia, UPI. He was a member of SDX, The Players, and press clubs in San Francisco, Sydney, Montreal, Seattle and Los Angeles.

* * *

Arthur Meyer Brandel, 67, a correspondent in Europe for *The New York Times* for several years after World War II, died Nov. 26 in the Veterans Administration Hospital in Washington, D.C., after a long illness.

A former member of the Overseas Press Club, Brandel founded the weekly publication *Post-Age* in 1972, and served as editor and publisher until his retirement last year.

He was expelled from Yugoslavia in 1948 for prophetic but irritating articles about Soviet-Yugoslav relations. He is survived by his wife, Evelyn C. Brandel, 2745 29th St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008. — **Julia Edwards**

Overseas Press Club of America, Inc.
52 East 41st Street
New York, N.Y. 10017